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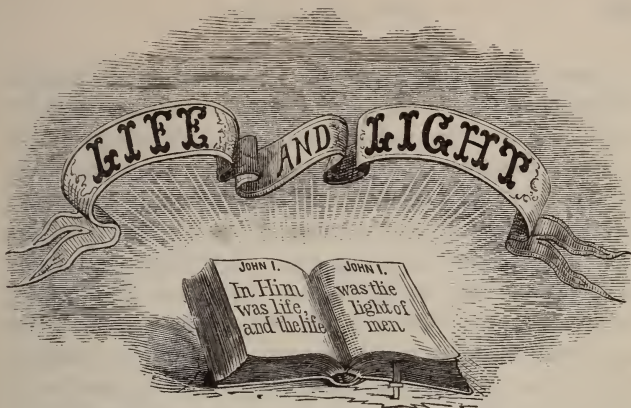
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FOR WOMAN.

VOL. III.

MAY, 1873.

No. 5.

TURKEY.

CASTING LOTS.

BY MISS HATTIE SEYMOUR.

MR. WHEELER and I have just returned from Malatia, after an absence of nine days. The weather has been charming for touring: for six weeks we have had no rain. It was like a taste of home to see the gardens and trees, and abundance of water, in Malatia. The pastor of the church there, and his wife, are both graduates of our school: their oldest daughter and son have been in Harpoot for two years,—one in our seminary, the other in the normal school. It is very gratifying to us that the preachers trained here are the ones most anxious to commit their children to us, and consecrate them to the Lord's work. This last year eleven of our girls were daughters of old pupils.

There is still another graduate of our school in Malatia, — Mariné, a Bible-reader. We visited together among the women, many of them Armenians, whom she was teaching to read. I could see how much faith and patience a Bible-woman needs in her work. Mariné not only reads and prays with those whom she visits, but she gives them lessons, beginning with the alphabet. Unless they are peculiarly earnest, they are inclined to draw back after a short trial, seeing their slow progress, and hindered, perhaps, by large families and much housework. Mariné goes among them as one having authority: she seems to reprove, rebuke, and exhort with all long-suffering; and they look up to her with respect. She holds meetings with them twice every week, and has a large Bible class on the sabbath. The pastor depends much upon her. At stated times they two closely question each woman of the congregation about her spiritual state and the performance of her religious obligations.

I had three meetings with the women while in Malatia. On the sabbath a large company of them came together in the chapel; the Protestants bringing with them many of their relatives and friends who still cling to the old religion. I talked to them from the words, "Lord, teach us how to pray." They know little of what real prayer is. In the Armenian church they listen to the priest as he rapidly chants the prayers in a language they do not understand, make the required prostrations and responses, and the task is over. They have comparatively no knowledge of the blessed privilege of talking with God while they are at work, of making their wants known to him at all times and in all places.

While we were in Malatia, Mr. Wheeler was called upon to settle a question which had agitated the church for a year. A daughter of one of the prominent members was

engaged to be married to a young man, also a Christian. From the account we heard of the affair, it would seem that the suit had been pressed hard by the young man's friends, — of course, he was not an actor, — and consent had been rather reluctantly given. The girl received the pledges of betrothal usual among Protestants in this land, — a Bible and a string of gold coins. She wore the coins on her head, thus publicly acknowledging the engagement. After a while the pledges were returned by her father and brothers. As it is considered a great sin here to break such a compact, the church at once took up the cause, to a man, sided with the discarded lover, and for a year had been in a constant state of excitement. The father and brothers were suspended from the church, as it was supposed, probably justly so, that they were the guilty party. When the trouble first began, the girl told Mariné that it was her wish to marry the young man; but her feelings had become alienated through the influence of her friends.

A meeting of church-members was called while we were there; and as the father had said, "Let her do as she pleases," it was decided that the matter must be settled that evening. She is a slender, dark-eyed girl, about fifteen or sixteen years of age. The responsibility being thrown upon her, she evidently did not like to say "Yes," and yet she feared that the dissension in the church would continue and increase if she said "No." She repeatedly said, "I do not know what to say: if I only knew what the will of the Lord was, I would gladly do it." They passed her over into my hands for a while; and she looked so pale and distressed, I could but pity her. Thinking that if she accepted him it would only be because she feared, if she did not, it would be a sin, I did not urge her either way, only telling her she ought to make her choice that evening. The longer she waited, the more undecided she seemed.

We sat up till two o'clock, the brethren meanwhile becoming violently excited against the father and brothers. The two parties mutually recriminated each other, talking so angrily and boisterously, that we shut the windows, lest the noise should be heard in the street.

At last Mr. Wheeler proposed that the girl should decide by casting lots. She seemed greatly relieved, and gladly consented, saying she should feel that the Lord had chosen for her. All having promised to abide by the lot, Mr. Wheeler took two volumes of "Barnes' Notes" from the bookcase, in one of which he wrote *io*, or "yes" and in the other *cha*, which is the Armenian for "no." These were laid upon the table; and the girl was called in to make her selection. Mr. Wheeler offered prayer that the Lord would manifest his will. The room was as still as death as she walked up and took the book in which was written "no."

The pastor and brethren were evidently very much disappointed; but they showed an excellent spirit, and submitted with a grace I hardly think they would have exhibited, if it had not been for the wearisome siege of seven hours through which we had passed. Mr. Wheeler gave the company some good advice respecting the obligation to consult their daughters before betrothal, and enlarged upon the sin of breaking engagements without good reason. Thus was this affair settled that had brought great reproach upon the Protestants: even the Turks came to talk with us about it. It may seem a strange way to determine such a question; but, in view of all the circumstances, I think it was most wisely managed. All angry feeling appeared to subside at once. Both parties said, "It is the Lord who has spoken; and we accept his decision." We were particularly anxious that the question should be settled at once, because we had seen some tokens of the Spirit's

presence in the meetings ; and we wished to enter upon the services of the sabbath with the great stumbling-block removed. It was a day of tender interest : every watchful heart must have recognized a heavenly influence in the marked stillness and attention of the congregations.

Dear sisters, we are strongly feeling our need of the help of the Holy Spirit in our work. On a sabbath evening, before we went to Malatia, one of Mr. Finney's sermons, from the text, "Be ye filled with the Spirit," was read aloud to our circle. It came home with wonderful power to all our hearts. Then a letter from Mr. Barnum, written from New Haven during the meeting of the Board, stirred us deeply. He said it was the grandest meeting he ever attended ; that all the exercises indicated the conscious want of the help of God's Spirit in the prosecution of missionary work. Will you not pray earnestly that this one great blessing may be poured out richly upon us ?

LETTER FROM MISS GRISWOLD.

WE ask our readers to notice, in the following letter from Miss Griswold of Cæsarea, the indications, that, little by little, the old prejudices are giving way to gospel influences :—

"The work among the women in Talas is going surely forward. They are not so slow to receive the truth as to acknowledge it. Many of them know the priests are not true shepherds, yet they fear them. The large hall in our house is now used for a chapel ; and the women's side is always filled, sometimes crowded,—mostly with the Greek women in the neighborhood. Their feelings toward us have changed very much during the last two years : they are now very friendly and respectful, often visiting us in a neighborly fashion, and receiving us kindly when we call on them. We are much interested in an Armenian, a

widow. She came to the chapel a few times, and to the weekly meeting for women twice, avowing herself a Protestant. For this her father whipped her, and ordered her not to come here again. She cannot disobey him, and does not appear with us publicly, but continues firm. Another woman, whose husband is away, hearing that he had become a Protestant, came quietly to church, and is not afraid to be called one of us. These instances are very encouraging to us from the fact that so many persecute their husbands with such severity.

“We have been much pleased with the conduct of a young student and his wife from Talas. He declared his purpose of studying for the ministry in the fall; and his wife with her little child, notwithstanding the violent opposition of her mother-in-law, determined to accompany him to the city. When he returned for their bedding, his mother refused to give it to him. He came to us in despair; but Mr. F. encouraged him to be patient, and the next day his mother yielded. They had all lived as one family at home, and his wife knew very little of care; but afterwards she was obliged to sell her gold to help eke out the family expenses. I think at that time she had scarcely any knowledge of the truth, but was devoted to her husband.

“Last week Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett and myself took a trip to Moonjoosoon, a village about four hours from Talas. There is a small church there, with an earnest, faithful pastor. They are just finishing a new chapel, — a plain but substantial structure, with schoolrooms on the lower floor. The brethren have given many days’ work to it; and the pastor has superintended it with untiring zeal. All seemed to take great satisfaction in it. One improvement we were pleased to see: there was no gallery for the women, who are usually huddled like so many sheep into a place where it is almost impossible to hear any thing from the pulpit.

The pastor had a struggle for it; and I think the turning of the scale was the donation of five pounds from one of the missionaries, on condition that there should be no such gallery. The brethren are good Christians; but they are not quite reconciled to the 'new-fangled notion' of women being seen. One of the sons of our host had been recently married; and we were surprised to see the bride quietly moving about with her face exposed, and speaking aloud in the presence of her father and mother. It was quite refreshing. She was the niece of the pastor, and had been instructed by him; and, though her father-in-law thought it not quite proper, he yielded until they should go to Constantinople.

"There is a very pleasant band of sisters at Moonjoosoon, who seemed delighted to see us, and took much pains to entertain us. We noticed especially their neatness and the fine appearance of their children. Another delightful thing was, that not one of them asked us what the latest fashions were, or how our dresses were made. All spoke of trying to interest their neighbors both by precept and example, and seemed determined to do what they could."

From the same station Mrs. Giles, under date of Feb. 21, writes:—

"There never was a time in our field when so many women were anxious to learn to read. We are employing some of our scholars to teach them, at the small compensation of four cents a month for each pupil. One girl gives lessons to seven women, from three to five times a week. We are also using the same agency to relieve our Bible-woman, that she may have more time for her legitimate work. She is instructed, however, to have a careful supervision over these young workers.

CHINA.

CALL FOR PRAYER.

IN a recent letter to one of the auxiliaries of the New Haven Branch, Miss Andrews, after speaking of her busy life in Tungcho both in "rest-time" and "work-time," closes with the following earnest appeal : —

"You ask what you can do for me — with money, nothing. Perhaps my work for women will demand money when it becomes more regular and systematic; but that is in the future. The best disposal of funds is, often, to place them in the hands of those, who, seeing the whole field, can best judge where they are most required. But there is one thing I do most earnestly beseech you and your society to do; that is to help me with your prayers. I need that assistance all the time. Our great want is God's Spirit, and you know the power of prayer to bring that blessing.

"The real trials of a missionary's life are not in outward circumstances, but in heart-sorrows. Prayers apparently unanswered; time and strength spent seemingly in vain; disappointed hopes; coldness of heart where we looked for warm love; hypocrisy where we thought was truth; love of money where we thought was love of Christ; holding up the Saviour before blinded eyes; telling his story to hearts that do not feel; striving, wrestling, to save souls from the grasp of Satan; putting forth every power to sustain weak, trembling Christians, and then seeing them fall; working and praying on day after day; sowing much, and reaping little; feeling so powerless when Satan seems so strong, — these are the things which try our souls, that wear out our strength, and even life itself, and would kill our faith, were we not kept by the power of God. Sisters, pray for us. If you love perishing souls, if you love Jesus and his work, pray for us!"

AFRICA.

STONY PLACES.

WE give below a glimpse of the daily labor of one of our devoted missionaries in South Africa, Miss Hance : —

“ I would like to tell you, this evening, something of the way I have spent the afternoon among the station people. At the first place I visited, the mother had gone out to work in the field, leaving her house in the greatest disorder. I tried to persuade the oldest child, a girl of ten years, to give some sort of tidiness to the house before the mother’s return, telling her I would call as I came back. I then went on to see an old woman who is not able to go to church. I read, and she repeated after me, the sixth chapter of Matthew.

“ My third visit was at the house of one who has long been taught, and who, we have felt, was almost persuaded to be a Christian; but still he has delayed. The wife was at home, and, while telling me of her little child and his cunning ways, said, ‘ His father prays night and morning now; and my little boy, just after he rises in the morning, and before he will lie down at night, will say, “ *Tula si ya bandaeza*,” — “ Keep still: we pray,” — and will not be quiet until his request is granted.’ At the next place I found three strong men sitting in the most indolent way on the floor, amusing themselves with idle talk, and taking snuff. A woman sat near the door, holding her baby, and sewing. As I could not have an interview with her alone, I tried to enter into conversation with them. I told them of the industry of people in other lands, and of the comfortable homes they gained by it. They seemed interested, asked many questions; and I only wish it might have some influence with them.

“There is a great work here for woman, although attended with many difficulties and discouragements; and I would that I could tell you, how, in days of weakness and despondency, we are helped over the stony places by the thought that you in America love this work, and are carrying it to the same God, who cares for it more than we can, and who will, it may be, in answer to the pleadings of Christians, consent to bless even the little I may do.”

Our Work at Home.

THE HOUR OF PRAYER.

“WHEN the hosts of Israel and Edom were about to perish of thirst in the wilderness, in obedience to the divine command they made the valley full of ditches; and, at the hour of prayer and humble recognition of God, the water came.” A perishing world waits for the water of life: in many places the channels so freely opened are only waiting for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in answer to the prayers of believing souls. At the meeting of the board in New Haven, a key-note was struck, that found an echo in almost every heart as soon as it was touched. From the four quarters of the globe, with an intensity of earnestness never experienced before, we are asked to “besiege the throne of grace, that this best of blessings may be wonderfully granted to all mission-fields.”

Constant requests come from Turkey that we should

“pray for the preachers and teachers, that they may be earnest and faithful in winning souls to Christ; for all who profess to love our Lord, that others, taking knowledge of them, will know they have been with Jesus; for those who are suffering persecution, that they may be strong, and enabled to endure unto the end.” Mrs. Wheeler writes, “Dear sisters, I wish I could come into some of your meetings, and ask you to pray for us. The week of prayer has passed, and we in this city not blessed.” She also asks even the little children to cover their pennies with their prayers. From Africa comes the cry, “Do pray for the people here; for we feel that the Spirit of God alone can open their blind eyes, and unstop their deaf ears.” And on another page we have from China the urgent, almost passionate appeal of Miss Andrews, closing with, “Sisters, pray for us! If you love perishing souls, if you love Jesus and his work, pray for us!”

Our missionaries go forth, a little band of men and women, to change the habits, the long-established religions, the ancient customs, of millions of people. Can we wonder, that, in their “utter powerlessness,” they long for help from Him who holds the nations in a balance? Believing that this world-wide call is the Spirit’s invitation, and that there is special power in united prayer, we ask our friends once more to remember the hour set apart for this purpose, — from five to six on sabbath evening. We have received assurance that it is observed by a few Christian women here and there; but may it not be, that quietly, at the appointed time, there shall go up from a whole continent a volume of prevailing prayer?

“Jesus, the Lord, will hear

His chosen when they cry:

Yes, though he may a while forbear,

He’ll help them from on high.”

OUR NEW ROOMS.

ON the morning of the 17th of February, a few friends met for a simple service of dedication of the new rooms of the Woman's Board in the Congregational House.

After the opening exercises, the president, Mrs. Albert Bowker, gave a brief but very interesting account of the providential way in which the first growing wants of the society were met by the opening of the little room in Pemberton Square, measuring twelve feet by eleven, and of the work that had been accomplished there. Recognizing the same guiding hand on this occasion, she closed with a tribute of thanksgiving and praise to Him who had so blessed the society, and once more provided the much needed accommodations for its constantly-increasing operations.

Mrs. Tyler of the Zulu Mission spoke of the importance to the missionary ladies of some central point through which they could communicate with the women of the churches, and to which they could turn for relief and assistance. As tidings came to them in distant lands of the breaking-up of home after home, it was a great comfort to feel, that, in one place at least, a welcome was awaiting them, and in one place they were sure of sympathy in all their joys and sorrows. Personally she rejoiced in the privilege of carrying back to Africa the remembrance of the new home of the Woman's Board, and of telling the friends there of the love and tenderness constantly flowing from it.

Mrs. Gyles Merrill of St. Alban's, who had come more than a hundred miles through the winter snows to attend the meeting, felt amply repaid by what she had learned of the progress of the work; and, as she hoped soon to have a Branch Society in Vermont, she was glad to find the connecting link between the laborers at home and those in the foreign field so pleasantly established. Several other la-

dies expressed great gratification at the prosperity of the society, especially at the enlargement of accommodations so much desired; and the meeting closed with prayer, consecrating the rooms, and all connected with them, to the sending of the gospel to heathen women.

The new apartments are airy and commodious; and we have reason to thank the good Father that the lines have fallen to us in such pleasant places.

RECEIPTS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

FROM FEB. 18, TO MARCH 18.

MRS. HOMER BARTLETT, TREASURER.

MAINE.

<i>Amherst.</i> — Mrs. Loring, \$2.50;	
“A Friend,” 25 cents,	\$2.75
<i>Biddeford.</i> — Towards constituting S. L. Jordan L. M.,	10.00
<i>Brunswick.</i> — Aux., Miss S. P. Newman, Treas.,	72.00
<i>Ellsworth.</i> — Miss L. L. Phelps, Treas., Prayer Circle, \$6.35;	
“Cup-Bearers,” \$1,	7.35
<i>Holden.</i> — Aux.,	2.50
<i>N. Yarmouth.</i> — “A Friend,”	1.50
<i>Waterville.</i> — George and Frank Herrick,	2.00
Total,	\$98.10

C. Home Building-Fund.

<i>Waterville.</i> — Aux. Society,	\$21.52
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NEW HAMPSHIRE.

<i>Bennington.</i> — Mrs. C. P. Whittemore, and members of her S. S. class, for Miss Proctor's work,	\$10.00
<i>Exeter.</i> — “Cheerful Givers,” Mission Circle,	3.50
<i>Nashua.</i> — Aux., by Mrs. R. T. Smith, \$21.27; First Ch., Mission Circle, \$17.49,	38.76
<i>New Alstead.</i> — “A Little Worker,”	.50
<i>New Ipswich.</i> — Aux., additional,	-1.00

<i>Portsmouth.</i> — Aux., Mrs. N. B. Colman, Treas., Miss Caroline Martin, to constitute herself L. M., \$25; aux., N. Cong. Ch., Mrs. Joshua Brooks, towards L. M., \$10,	\$35.00
Total,	\$88.76

C. Home Building-Fund.

<i>N. Conway.</i> — “A Friend,” by Miss Merrill,	\$2.00
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VERMONT.

<i>Brandon.</i> — Ladies of Cong. Ch., by Mrs. Reynolds,	\$30.00
<i>Fairlee.</i> — Mrs. Kibbey,	1.00
<i>Georgia.</i> — Aux., Miss Gilbert, Sec., to constitute Mrs. Mary J. Jackson L. M.,	25.00
<i>Grafton.</i> — “Friends,”	7.00
<i>Peacham.</i> — Mrs. E. C. Chamberlin, to constitute her daughters, Misses Laura B. and Abbie M. Chamberlin, L. M.'s,	50.00
<i>St. Alban's.</i> — Mrs. Harris,	2.00
<i>St. Johnsbury.</i> — Ladies of S. Cong. Ch.,	27.85
<i>Townsend, W.</i> — “A Friend,”	.50
<i>Vergennes.</i> — Cong. S. S., for pupil at Harpoot,	40.00
Total,	\$183.35

MASSACHUSETTS.

Amesbury, W. — Aux., Miss Haskell, Treas., \$10.40
Andover. — Mrs. S. H. Taylor, \$5;
 Miss C. R. Jackson, \$5, 10.00
Bradford. — Aux., Mrs. A. Hammond, Treas., 25.00
Beverly. — Aux., Dane-street Ch., Mrs. S. W. Clark, Treas., of which to constitute Mrs. Mary S. Jones, Miss Adelia E. Coffin, and Mrs. Clarissa Remmonds L. M.'s; "A Friend," Dane-street Ch., to constitute Mrs. Augusta Laphear L. M., \$25, 130.00
Brookline. — Aux., Harvard Ch., Miss M. G. Stoddard, Treas., of which \$25 by Mrs. S. A. Robinson to constitute herself L. M., \$32; Harvard Ch., S.S. Mission Circles, "Hattoon Geragosian," \$5; "Hope Circle," \$5; "Buds of Promise," \$5; "Gleaners," \$5.50; "Violets," \$5; "Cheerful Givers," 7.25 (and of this class four little girls under ten years of age have procured four subscribers to "Life and Light"); total for a pupil at Harpoot, 32.75, 64.75
Boston. — Mrs. Lucretia P. Howe, \$100 additional; Sarah, Fannie, Helen, \$5; "Little Sunbeams," \$4; Central Ch., Miss M. Child's S. S. class, "Busy Bees," Master B. E. Bates, Treas., \$8; Mt. Vernon Ch., E. S. Tobey, jun. Treas., — thirteen ladies, \$1 each (\$13); Miss Reed, Miss Irvine, Miss Wilder, Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Chandler, Mrs. Ellis, Miss Quinn, Miss Howe, Mrs. Johnston, two friends, \$2 each, (\$22); Miss Mutter, \$4; Mrs. Ayres, Mrs. Parkhurst, \$5 each (\$10); Mrs. Hall, \$10; Mrs. Warren, \$10; Mrs. Winslow, \$15; Mrs. Dorus Clark, to constitute Miss Ellen S. S. Clark L. M., \$25; "A Friend," \$25; others, \$3.05, — 137.05; Berkeley-street Ch., by Mrs. Leavitt, \$1.50; Shawmut Ch., "A Friend," to constitute Miss H. S. Proctor L. M., \$25; Union Ch., additional, by Mrs. Charles Scudder, \$74; Old South Ch., "L. F. B.," monthly subscription, to constitute Miss Susan E. Manning, L. M. \$30; February subscription to constitute Miss Fannie E. Haughton L. M.; Mrs. H. C. Porter, \$2; L.

S. Cragen, Esq., \$10; by collections Misses Gilbreth, Barry, Haughton, Jellison, Tead, and Brewster, Miss Abbie Wahey, Treas., \$267.50 (viz., Mrs. Charles Stoddard, \$25 to constitute Miss Charlotte A. Jellison L. M.; Miss Charlotte Goodnow, to constitute herself L. M., \$25; Mrs. C. A. Johnson, \$25; Mrs. Samuel Johnson, jun., \$10; Mrs. Charles Blake, \$10; the Misses Hill, \$10; Mrs. S. R. Payson, \$10; Mrs. P. Sprague, \$5; Mrs. E. C. Milliken, \$5; Mrs. C. H. Browne, \$5; Mrs. J. D. Thompson, \$5; Mrs. G. W. Blagden, \$5; Mrs. Buck, \$5; Miss Mary Fowler, \$5; Miss Payson, \$5; Miss M. J. Allen, \$5; the Misses Walley, \$5; Mrs. Avery Plummer, \$5; Mrs. J. B. Kimball, \$5; "A Friend," \$5; Mrs. E. C. Johnson, \$5; Mrs. J. L. Barry, \$5; Miss M. Harris, \$5; Mrs. C. Morse, \$5; the Misses Thayer, \$5; Mrs. G. Rogers, \$3; Mrs. W. Fisher, \$3; Mrs. B. Perkins and daughter, \$8; Miss Crocker, \$3; Mrs. Jellison, \$2; Miss Jellison, \$2; Mrs. Palmer, \$2; Mrs. Bancroft, \$2; Mrs. Coverly, \$2; Miss Barry, \$2; Mrs. Spear, \$2; Mrs. Hunkins, \$2; Old South, Mrs. Wetherbee, \$2; Mrs. N. Gibbs, \$2; Mrs. Greenough, \$2; others, \$23.50; \$309.50 (\$169.29, previously acknowledged, and \$370 pledged for general work, not including interest on Baldwin fund, or subscriptions to C. Home Building), \$664.05
Boston, S. — Philips Ch., aux., Mrs. J. Drake, Treas., for support of Miss Phœbe L. Cull at Manissa, and to constitute Mrs. Lizzie K. Baile, Mrs. Nancy D. Burrage, and Mrs. Elizabeth H. Angier L. M.'s, Mrs. A. D. Burnham, to constitute Mrs. E. M. C. Mills L. M., Mrs. M. H. Alden, to constitute Miss Sarah B. Alden, Mrs. J. Drake, to constitute Mrs. Sarah K. Dawson and Miss Margaret Kyle L. M.'s, Mrs. Calvin Shepard, to constitute Miss Sarah M. Dawson L. M., Mrs. Alvan Simonds, to constitute Miss Amelia M. Hinckley; Deacon Alvan Simonds, to constitute Mrs. Lucy E. Lincoln L. M., 460.50

Cambridge.—"Jewel Seekers," \$2.50, "Willing Helpers," \$10, with previous donations, to constitute Mrs. E. S. Johnson L. M., \$12.50
Chelsea.—Chestnut-street Ch., aux., Mrs. Tenney, \$1; Miss M. E. Brooks, \$1.50; Miss S. R. Brooks, \$1; Mrs. Allen, \$1; Gracie B. Allen, \$3; "A Friend," \$2, 9.50
Concord.—Aux., Miss M. Munroe, Sec., of which to constitute their pastor's wife L. M., Mrs. H. M. Grant, 30.00
Egremont. S.—Collections S. S., W. E. Phelps, Treas., to constitute Mrs. A. G. Dickinson and Mrs. Martha B. Dalzell L. M.'s, 50.00
Greenwich.—Aux., additional, 5.00
Hinsdale.—Mrs. E. Flint, Treas., of which to constitute Mrs. Sarah Warriner L. M., \$54.50; "Mountain Rill," E. Taylor, Treas., \$6.02, 60.52
Holliston.—Mission-Circle, "Open Hands," 12.44
Hyde Park.—Nellie Tyler's doll's missionary-box, .25
Haverhill.—"A. M. S.," 2.00
Hopkinton.—Aux., with previous contribution, to constitute Mrs. Mary S. Ide L. M., 3.55
Jamaica Plain.—Minnie Gilbert's candy money, 3.50
Long Meadow.—Ladies of S. S., 38.50
Middleborough.—Aux., Mrs. P. B. Drake, Treas., 30.00
Millbury.—"Light Bearers," Miss M. E. Goddard, Pres., proceeds of sale, 100.00
Norton.—Wheaton Female Seminary, with previous contributions, to constitute Miss F. M. Emerson L. M., 7.75
Newburyport.—Aux., Mrs. H. A. Ingraham, Treas., to constitute Mrs. Dr. S. J. Spaulding, Mrs. Joseph Moulton, Mrs. Dr. J. P. Cleveland, the latter by her daughter, \$75; "Bellville" Mission-Circle, to support native teacher at Bitlis, \$61; pupil in Mrs. Edwards' school, \$30, 166.00
Peabody.—Aux., Mrs. C. G. Smith, Treas., for Misses Ely's school, 113.85
Somerville.—Franklin-street Ch., young ladies' sewing-circle, proceeds of sale, 200.00
Somerville, N.—Ladies of Broadway Ch., 4.00
Springfield.—Aux, Miss H. S. Buckingham, Treas., Memorial

Ch, to constitute Mrs. W. S. Eustis L. M., South Ch., to constitute Miss H. S. Buckingham L. M., Mrs. Ethan Chapin, to constitute herself L. M., Mrs. A. F. Cowles, to constitute herself L. M., \$100.00
Taunton, E.—Mrs. Reed's S. S. class, 3.00
Uxbridge.—Young ladies' Missionary Society, 14.50
Woburn.—Aux., Mrs. Adkins, Treas., 20.00
Worcester.—"Seek and Save" Society, 5.00
Winchendon.—From one who loves the cause, 5.00
Winchester.—Aux., Miss Chapin, Treas., Mrs. N. W. C. Holt, to constitute Miss L. Jennie Sanderson L. M., 25.00
Ware.—Aux., Mrs. William Hyde, Treas., 94.40
 Total, \$2,480.46

C. Home Building-Fund.

Boston.—Park-street Ch. S. S., George W. Coburn, Supt., \$88.06; Old South Ch. S. schools, by M. Merrill, Supt., 186.30 58.21; Mrs. Daniel T. Coit, \$40,
Brookline.—Harvard Ch., aux., \$100.00
Newton Centre.—Mrs. A. F. Wardwell, 100 00
Peabody.—Aux., 61.81
Ware.—Aux., 11.00
Whitinsville.—Mrs. Charles P. Whitin, 100.00

CONNECTICUT.

Colchester.—Aux., Mrs. Wheeler, Treas., to constitute Mrs. H. E. Hyde, Mrs. W. E. Gillette, and Mrs. Fanny S. Curtis L. M.'s, also \$25 by Mrs. Elizabeth Clark to constitute her daughter, Mrs. Mary E. Clark, L. M., \$100.00
Glastonbury.—Aux., by Rev. E. Kittredge, 26.00
Hartford.—Aux., Park-street Ch., \$99.75; Centre Ch., additional, \$5; Asylum Hill Ch., \$112.20, 216.95
New London.—Second Cong. Ch., aux., by Miss Lucy P. Butler, 89.25
New Haven.—Mrs. M. Armstrong, to constitute Miss E. L. Armstrong L. M., 25.00
Poquonock.—"A Friend," 5.00
Stafford Springs.—Aux., Miss S. M. Dennis, Treas., 26.30

South Britain. — Mrs. Daniel Place, \$5.00

Total, \$493 50

C. Home Building-Fund.

Colchester. — Aux., \$9.00

Guilford. — S.S., Miss Dudley's class, 2.00

W. Winsted. — Miss Martha E. Beardsley, 1,000.00

LONG ISLAND AND NEW YORK.

Flushing. — Mrs. E. W. Gilman, \$1.50

Norwich. — Cong. Ch. S. S. for pupil at Harpoot, 30.00

Rochester. — Plymouth Ch. S.S., 10.00

Richmond. — Four little girls, "Happy Workers" circle, 15.00

Syracuse. — By Miss M. Fritcher, Treas., aux., for salary of Miss A. E. Fritcher at Marsovan, Turkey, 345.00

Total, \$401.50

OHIO.

Cleveland. — Plymouth Ch. S.S., for pupil at Harpoot, \$40.06

Randolph. — "A Friend," 1.00

Windham. — Young ladies' missionary circle, towards salary of Miss Closson, 33.85

Total, \$74.91

MICHIGAN.

Ann Arbor. — For schools, \$24.00

IOWA.

Eldora. — M. W. Eastman, \$1 00

CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco. — Miss S. Earle, Treas., towards salary of Miss Rappelye, at Constantinople, \$50.00

Subscriptions, 3,895.58

C. Home Building, 1,593.62

"Life and Light," 994.05

"Echoes," 144.81

"Life and Light" due in 1872, 56.50

"Echoes" " " " 3.50

Weekly pledges, 22.85

Total for month, \$6,710.91

N.B. — Miss Margaret S. Henderson, and Miss Jennie E. Miner were made Life-Members of the W. B. M. by the New Haven branch. Mrs. Hotchkiss of New Hampshire, by her recent donation, constitutes Mrs. William A. P. Martin of Pekin, China, Misses M. A. Tucker and M. B. Shipman of New Haven, and Mrs. S. P. Giddings of Washington, D.C., Life-Members.

NOTE. — The donation of Mrs. Edward Sweet, mentioned in the April number, should have been reported as from Montclair, N.J., instead of Mt. Elias.

REPORT OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE TREASURER OF THE NEW HAVEN BRANCH.

FEBRUARY.

Norwalk. — Aux., Mrs. E. E. Raymond, Treas., First Cong. Ch. Assoc., for support of pupil at Constantinople Home (\$50.25 of which from the ladies' Ch. Assoc., \$50 from "May Flower Mission Band," and \$12 private donation), \$112.25

Westbrook. — Aux., Miss E. C. Kimball, Treas., for support of girl in Miss Payson's school, Fouchow, 40.00

Woodbury. — Aux., Mrs. John T. Ward, Treas., to complete payment for support of girl in Miss Clark's school in Broosa, 5 00

New Haven. — Centre Ch., Mrs. Julia Dickerman, \$5.00

MARCH.

New Haven. — Centre Ch., Mrs. D. C. Collins, to constitute her daughter, Miss Edith Collins, L. M., \$25; Centre Ch., Miss Susan Bradley, Treas., \$13.82; Centre Ch., Mrs. Frances P. Gilbert, for C. Home Fund, and also to constitute herself and Miss R. G. Bacon L. M.'s, \$50, 88.82

Total, \$251.07



AFRICA.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM REV. M. W. PINKERTON.

FROM a private letter from Rev. M. W. Pinkerton, of the mission to the Zulus of South Africa, we are privileged to glean the following facts relating to that country and people, and the work of the missionaries among them. The letter is dated Umtwalumi, Sept. 9, 1872: —

“From Durbin we went north-east to Umvoti, famous the world over as the place where Mr. Grout labored so long, and built up the largest and most civilized mission-station among the Zulus, and where Mrs. Lloyd buried her husband and child, and then took up the work herself. A Zulu said to me of Mrs. Lloyd, ‘She loved us people greatly, and taught us with all her might.’ Mr. Lloyd’s grave is close by the door of the church at Umvoti, where he asked to be buried, that, though he was never able to preach to them in their own tongue, his tombstone might remind them of his desire to do so. Our journey was in the dead of winter, — a very different winter from that of Wisconsin. At Umvoti we had green corn fresh from the garden in July, the month that corresponds to your January. We saw no frost in Durbin in June. Flowers are always in blossom; and a good variety of wild-flowers may be seen at any season of the year.

“A friend in America requested me to write the difference between a Zulu and a Kaffir. The name Zulu is

specific, denoting a division of the great Kaffir race, who occupy all this part of Africa, north-east of Cape Town: hence the term Zulu Kaffir is used to indicate both the species and genus. The Hottentots are a people living at Cape Town, entirely different from the Kaffir, more white than black, and inferior in every respect to the Kaffir tribes. The Kaffirs are properly a black race, though with slight variations in color.

“I have begun to hold meetings at the house of one of the principal chiefs. He is anxious to have his people taught. They gather in the council hut, which is a large grass bee-hive, with a high door for its only opening. They carry in a chair for me; and the congregation sit on the ground around me. I teach the children the Ten Commandments and the Lord’s Prayer from a Zulu Primer, and tell them about some of the persons mentioned in the Scriptures. Then the men come to hear the preaching. They keep model order, and are very attentive. In going about among the homes of the people, I find the noble savage in all his nobility, also the demon in man fallen from the knowledge of God. The first chapter of Romans describes well the ‘noble savage’ of this land, as also the coolies of India, of whom we see many on the plantations. Yet they are human; and the story of the cross will lift them. My prayer is for words to tell them this story. I feel that my life-work is just begun. Remember in your prayers the work of the Lord among the Zulus.”

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM MRS. PINKERTON.

IN the Sunday school I have a class of women who cannot read. I am trying to teach them two verses every Sunday by having them repeat the verses after me. Then I say a little about what they have learned. Some of the

boys and girls are very tardy: so one Sunday I took my pencil and paper, and sat near the door, and, as the tardy ones came in, wrote down their names. At the close of school, Mr. Wilder told them I was very much troubled by their tardiness, and he hoped I would not have to put down their names again. When Monday came, I went in and found every one there. Many bright eyes and happy faces turned toward me as I entered the chapel, seeming to say, "See, I am here! I am not tardy to-day."

Three or four days after I began to keep house at Umtwalumi, a girl came into my kitchen, and said she wanted to come and live at the station in order to learn. I asked her if her father was willing she should come. The only answer I could get was, "I told them I wanted to come, and was coming." All she had on was a piece of cloth around her body. I cut her out a garment, and gave her the first sewing-lesson. The next day her father came into my kitchen in a great rage, and wanted the girl. I called her; for, when she saw her father coming, she had run away to hide, and at my call she came with great fear. Her father was very angry, and tried to use violence. This my husband would not allow. At last, after a long talk with the girl, he told her she might go home and talk the matter over; and, if she still wanted to come back to the station, she might come. So she went home with her father. I thought he would talk her out of it; but the next day, about noon, she came back, looking very happy. Before I go on with the story, let me tell you that her father had engaged this girl of fourteen years to an old man whose children are married. The old Kaffir law was, that a man might demand for his daughter as many head of cattle as he chose of the man who wished to marry her. The English did not think best to take this heathen practice entirely from them, but told them they could only demand ten head.

After the girl had been with me two days, her mother came to my window with a big stick in her hand. We were both sewing, and the girl was very much frightened. My husband was at the seaside, Mr. Wilder also away; and I called Mrs. Wilder. As the woman was determined to come in, Mrs. Wilder had the girl go out on the veranda. Her mother sprang upon her, threw her down, and began to beat her. We then sent for the native teacher by one of the children, and, as that was not sufficient, for the principal man on the station. They had to put the woman out by force. The chief was called in to settle the matter, and the girl still remained with me. She is a good girl, anxious to learn, and already very useful. Her willingness to be taught makes us hopeful that we shall do her good. Pray for me that I may have patience with her.

CHINA.

LETTER FROM MISS CHAPIN.

I NEVER before had such a sense of the utter powerlessness of human instrumentality, without the Spirit's influences, to reach the hearts of men, as I have since I came to China. I think it is true that these people are peculiarly unimpressible, and that the harvest-time for laborers in this field has not yet arrived. We are sowing seed; and though, occasionally, a few ripe ears are gathered in, yet, for the most part, we are not permitted to see the results of our labors. It certainly requires strong faith to be able to work on cheerfully and hopefully with so little visible result: yet, since God works by means, we believe that he is using the efforts now put forth as a preparation for his

own coming. We feel that it should be the burden of our prayers, and entreat that all our friends at home will join their petitions with ours, that the Lord will appear quickly for our help. We know that he is able to bring these hard, proud, stubborn hearts to himself. We have the command from the Master, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature;" and also the promise, "Lo, I am with you alway, even to the end of the world." Certainly, with such a helper, we have reason enough to be hopeful and courageous and strong.

We have lately a good deal to encourage us in one respect. The women who come to us for instruction are from a much better class than have ever before been in the habit of coming; and some of them seem very much interested in what they hear, and in learning to read. Last spring a whole family, consisting of a father and mother, with two sons and their wives, came into the church together. They continue to attend our services very regularly, and seem eager to advance in Christian knowledge. The three women are very diligent in their efforts to learn to read; and they make very good progress, especially the youngest of the three, whose advancement seems rather remarkable, when we remember how short a time she has been studying. The family seem very happy in their relations to one another; more like a foreign family in this respect than any other household I have seen in China.

We are grateful for these tokens that God is working with us; yet we long for more evidence of the Spirit's power among us, not only in bringing the heathen to be willing to listen to the truth, but in enabling those who profess to be Christians to lead more consistent lives, and to be more earnest and loving in their efforts to win souls to Christ. I trust you will not cease to remember us in your prayers.

CEYLON.

LETTER FROM MISS HILLIS.

THE following extracts are taken from a letter addressed by Miss Hillis to the Society of Inquiry connected with Iowa College. The letter is dated Tillipally, Oct. 14, 1872.

“In the mission-schools in Jaffna there are about six thousand children. These, and also the two girls’ boarding-schools, receive grants from government. The new governor visited Jaffna in May, and expressed much interest in the work of these missions, visiting the schools, and calling with his suite on the mission-families. Some of our number, whose memories hold the events of the fifty years of the mission’s existence, were reminded of the very different bearing of the governor who ruled the island during the early days of their residence here. They landed one or two days before his predecessor retired, and from him received permission to remain. When the new governor learned this fact, he was greatly displeased, and made an effort to send them away; but, failing to accomplish his object, he gave a reluctant consent, saying they could stay till they all died, but no others should ever join them. Dr. Spaulding and his wife were members of the company. They have welcomed half a dozen or more companies since then, and still live; while the governor died so long ago, that few would remember that he ever lived.

“The heathen festivals have been largely attended this year. One of the most famous temples is about a mile from the Tillipally station. Its annual festival was celebrated in May, continuing three weeks. It ended with drawing the car, and carrying the idol to bathe in the waters of the Ganges that flow from a spring in the sand at low tide. A few yards from our door is a large tamarind-

tree, the supposed residence of a devil, or some blood-loving spirit. A few months ago the annual offerings of goats and fowls were made. They were first carried to a temple not far distant, where a procession was formed soon after midnight. A large crowd had gathered when they reached the tree. The ceremonies were performed in a tent erected there for the purpose. Before the animals were slain, they were waved before the tree by the priest. On account of this feature of the ceremony, reminding one of the wave-offering of the Jews, I tried to learn the significance of the rite; but no one could give any other reason than that their forefathers always did so."

Home Department.

THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS FOR THE INTERIOR.

RECEIPTS FROM FEB. 15, TO MARCH 15, 1873.

MRS. FRANCIS BRADLEY, TREASURER.

OHIO.		MICHIGAN.	
<i>Kent.</i> —Aux., Mrs. Mary A. Bell, Sec.,	\$15.00	<i>Jackson.</i> —Aux. (of which \$25 is from Mrs. Elihu Cooley in memory of her sister, Mrs. F. W. Swift of Detroit, \$25 from Mrs. L. H. Field, to constitute Mrs. L. T. Osborn L. M., the remainder to constitute Mrs. O. C. Mosher, Mrs. M. J. Morrill, Mrs. B. J. Billings, and Mrs. Charlotte S. Gibson L. M.'s), Mrs. G. H. Lathrop, Treas.,	\$150.00
<i>Marietta.</i> —Aux., to be applied to the support of Sitka, Bible-reader at Samokov, and to constitute Mrs. John M. Eells L. M. Mrs. J. L. Mills, Sec.,	25.00	<i>Owosso.</i> —Aux., by Mrs. E. F. Guile,	39.23
<i>Oxford.</i> —Female Seminary, aux., by Miss L. K. Peabody,	56.62		
<i>Painesville.</i> —Aux., Miss Ella D. Everett, Treas.,	84.00		
Total,	\$180.62	Total,	\$189.23
INDIANA.			
<i>Fort Wayne.</i> —Plymouth Ch., S. S.,	\$14.00		

ILLINOIS.

<i>Alton.</i> —Aux., for support of Bible-reader in Harpoot, by Mrs. S. A. Whittlesey,	\$17.00
<i>Chicago.</i> —First Ch., aux., for the support of Miss Patrick, Mrs. C. H. Whittlesey, Treas., \$51; New England Ch., aux., for support of Miss Chapin, Mrs. Max Hjortsberg, Treas., \$69.33; Union Park Ch., aux., for Miss Rendall's salary for 1873; with \$25 Mrs. A. Blake constitutes herself L. M.; \$25 from Mrs. J. L. Pickard, to constitute her daughter, Miss Fannie M. Pickard, L. M.; \$25 from Mrs. F. W. Fisk, to constitute Mrs. Lucretia Ambrose Walker L. M.; \$25 from Mrs. Aaron Bliss and daughters in memory of their daughter and sister, Mrs. Martha Bliss Dickinson, Mrs. George Sherwood, Treas.,	159.86
<i>Geneva.</i> —Aux., to be applied to the salary of teacher for Miss Porter, Mrs. Alice E. Coe, Treas.,	7.50
<i>Glencoe.</i> —Aux., Mrs. S. T. Lockwood, Treas.,	22.25
<i>Odell.</i> —Aux., by Mrs. B. F. Hotchkiss,	5.00
<i>Princeton.</i> —Aux., Mrs. A. P. Converse, Treas.,	16.50
<i>Roseville.</i> —Aux., for the Samokov school, by Mrs. M. A. Wyckoff,	29.14
	<u>\$377.58</u>

WISCONSIN.

<i>Gay's Mills.</i> —S. S., to be applied to Miss Porter's school, by Mrs. T. W. Gay,	\$2.85
<i>Janesville.</i> —Aux., to constitute Mrs. Esther S. Whiting, and	

Mrs. Betsey G. Wheeler L. M.'s (of this sum \$5 is to be applied to the Constantinople Home), by Mrs. S. M. Jerome,	50.00
<i>Koshkomong.</i> —Aux., Mrs. Abel Slocum, Treas.,	17.31
<i>Menasha.</i> —Aux., Mrs. A. E. Rounds, Treas.,	4.30
<i>Sharon.</i> —Aux., by Mrs. N. S. Young,	6.00
<i>Waukesha.</i> —Aux., with previous contributions, to constitute Mrs. Charles W. Camp L. M., Miss E. D. Flintham, Sec.,	10.00
<i>Whitewater.</i> —Aux., Miss M. V. Hall, Treas.,	10.00
Total,	<u>\$100.46</u>

IOWA.

<i>Davenport.</i> —Aux., Mrs. T. F. Smith, Treas.,	\$28.15
<i>Iowa City.</i> —Aux., to be applied to the support of Miss Hillis, by Mrs. Sarah C. Parker,	31.00
<i>Independence.</i> —S.S., by Mrs. A. M. Bissell,	1.70
<i>Stellapolis.</i> —Children's Missionary Society, by Mrs. H. S. Clark,	7.00
Total,	<u>\$67.85</u>

KANSAS.

<i>Manhattan.</i> —Aux., to be applied to girls' schools at outstations at Harpoot, Mrs. F. A. Moses, Treas.,	\$1.25
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CONNECTICUT.

<i>East Hampton.</i> —"Earnest Mission Helpers," Miss Edith Bowles, Treas., to be applied to Miss Porter's school at Peeking,	5.00
Total,	<u>\$935.99</u>

A WORD FROM IOWA.

CHESTER, Io.

I REJOICE very much that "Life and Light" is to be a monthly, and should not feel that I could do without it, even if the subscription-price were doubled. It is to me the most interesting missionary paper that I have ever seen; and I hope its circulation may be greatly increased.



MAY.

PUBLISHED BY THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

1873.

"THE HINDU CHRISTMAS."

BY W. H. BALLANTINE.

I WOULD like to tell you about one of the Hindu festivals in Bombay. It is called *Nag Pauchmi*; or, "The Serpent's Feast on the Fifth Day." It is a great day for the children, who receive presents of toys and sweetmeats, are dressed in their best clothes, and play all day in the streets. Indeed, it is the Hindu Christmas; but it is kept in honor of Satan, instead of the Saviour. The Hindus pray to wicked spirits only on that day. Early in the morning the men go about, carrying snakes in baskets from house to house; and everywhere the women bow down before them, offering milk and candy, and giving presents to the snake-charmers who bring them.

Very near to my house are some large rocks, much washed and hollowed out by the water, when, in former years, the sea used to cover most of the ground where Bombay now stands. In a certain hole in one of these rocks, tradition says the old serpent of all lives. They have

built a stone vault over it, and smeared the sides of the hole with red paint, as they do every thing which they hold sacred. About noon people begin to come to this place, bringing milk, flowers, and copper coins ; and, by six o'clock in the evening, the crowd is so great, that mounted policemen are required to keep them from trampling down each other, so eager are they to make their offerings to the Devil. They come up, and throw their flowers down before the hole under the vault, pour out their milk upon the flowers, then joining their hands, and raising them to their foreheads, they say a short prayer to the spirits, and go away.

At one of these festivals a little distance off, I preached to a large company, telling them the story of our first parents ; that it was the serpent who tempted men to sin against God, and called upon them to turn from their enemy to their true friend and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ECHO FROM THE HARPOOT BELL.

BY MRS. WHEELER.

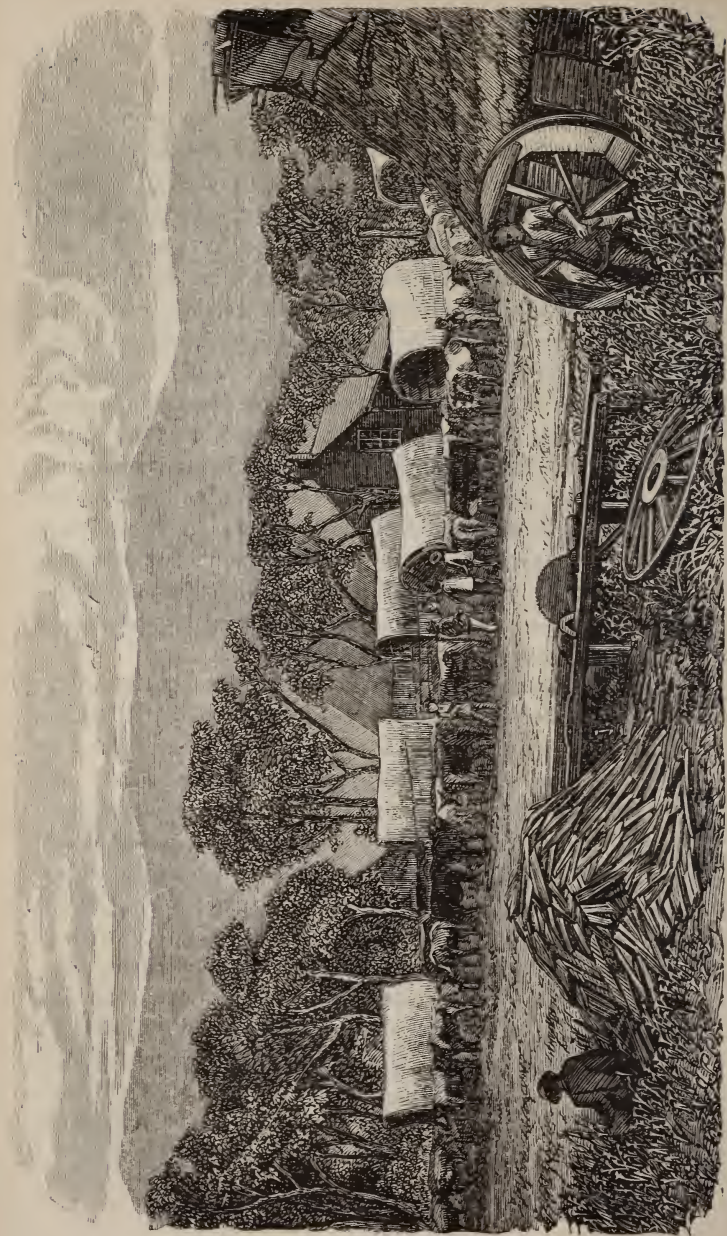
DEAR CHILDREN,—Are you listening for an echo from the money that some little girls in Boston sent to help place a bell on the Central Harpoot Church ? If so, listen ; and the bell will ring out “A happy new year !” to you all.

I wish you could all come and see what a neat, nice-looking church we have, and hear the sweet tones that call the people to worship God, and hear about Jesus ! Perhaps, if you should come, you would say, “What does Mrs. Wheeler mean by calling this church nice ? Has she never seen any of the handsome ones in America, that she calls this building nice ? No paint, not even pews, only a few cushions and coarse carpets for the people to sit upon !” But this

church is as good for the people here as yours in Boston is for you ; and they are delighted with it. I wish you could have seen their joy when Mrs. Allen gave them a carpet for the pulpit and stairs, and when I stained the pulpit and sofa the color of black walnut ! An excellent woman, who had given all the money she could for the building, brought me, one day, a piece of silk and linen damask, which had been left her by some rich friend, and said, " Can you use this, Hanum ? " I covered two of our old cane-seated chairs with it, and made them look quite " elegant." Enough remained to cover the top of the Bible-stand ; and I trimmed the edge with red fringe such as is used here for the trappings of horses. Eughaper, the one who brought this offering to Jesus, as did Mary of old, was greatly pleased. When the church was nearly finished, the money failed us ; and we feared that it might remain some time unplastered on the outside ; but the women made an earnest effort, and in various ways raised the necessary means.

After what they had done, it was hard to get what was required for the bell. We were encouraged by hearing that some dear children in Boston had been working for it ; and the women's societies, " Morning Star " and " Jacob's Well," held a fair, raising about twenty dollars. Many cut off little gold and silver ornaments ; and one bride gave a silver necklace that belonged to her dead mother. The result was, that the bell was in its place to ring on the first sabbath of the new year ; and I believe it will do much to fill the church with real earnest worshippers.

But what we want most is, that Jesus should come and dwell in it. Will you not pray for this, dear children ? How it would rejoice us all to know that those who worked for the bell had a meeting in some good lady's parlor to pray for a blessing on this part of our city ! We want you to cover your pennies all over with prayers.



AFRICAN TRAVELLING.

BY MRS. TYLER.

SOME years ago this African picture was described in "The Missionary Herald;" but, as few of the children who will read this probably saw it then, I will tell you what it all means.

In the foreground you see a boy standing against a wheel, who, by his appearance, seems to explain at once that he is learning to use white men's tools; for what did he know about a wagon-wheel before the missionary went there? His only mode of travel was on foot. Another is sitting on a pile of wood; and this is not a very uncommon occurrence, even when the photographer does not wish to take his picture; for he knows he has cut wood enough for to-day, and, like his countrymen generally, "he takes no thought for the morrow."

Next we see six covered wagons, with twelve oxen for each, because the roads in that country are so bad, and the wagons so heavy, that this is the number usually required. You will wonder why they are all assembled here. It is a time of famine; and the owners have been to a distant place where they could obtain some corn, which they have brought to sell to their hungry friends. I have often seen more than that number of wagons standing in a yard, which the missionaries and their families have used to convey them to the annual meeting. A tedious, disagreeable way of travelling you will think; but the fifty children or more who sometimes were present did not think so. They were so happy to meet once a year, to join in various games, to talk over the events of the past year, and to form plans for the future, that they were always glad when the time came for the journey. These wagons are fitted up with beds and provisions for the way; and, if the family is not too large, they

ride comfortably at the rate of twenty miles a day. They have the advantage of getting fresh air, and a good view of the country through which they pass, which you have not in the railroad cars; and they can get out at any time to gather flowers and ferns by the way.

But I must speak of the most interesting portion of the picture, — the missionary's house, with its thatched roof, standing against the beautiful mountains in the distance, the place where the people far and near love to resort, not always to hear of Jesus, I am sorry to say, but to see their teacher, whom they love and respect most sincerely. I often used to think it must seem like an oasis in their dreary life to come occasionally into the brightness of a missionary's house; and, whenever I saw them in their own miserable huts, I left them with the determination to make their visits to us as pleasant as possible. If we could only bring the love of Jesus into their hearts, how much brighter even those dark huts would become! That is what the missionaries are trying to do; and we are very glad when the children help us by their prayers and efforts to send forth more teachers.

MISSION-CIRCLES.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MAINE. — *Ellsworth*. — "Prayer Circle," \$6.35; "Cup-Bearers," \$1.00.

Waterville. — George and Frank Herrick, \$2.

NEW HAMPSHIRE. — *Exeter*. — "Cheerful Givers," \$3.50.

New Alstead. — A Little Worker, 50 cents.

MASSACHUSETTS. — *Brookline*. — Harvard Church, "Hattoon Geragolian," \$5; "Hope Circle," \$5; "Buds of Promise," \$5; "Gleaners," \$5.50; "Violets," \$5; "Cheerful Givers," \$7.25.

Boston. — Central Church, "Little Sunbeams," \$4.00; "Busy Bees," Benj. E. Bates, jun., Treas., \$8.00.

Cambridge. — "Jewel Seekers," \$2.50; "Willing Helpers," \$10.00.

Hinsdale. — "Mountain Rill," \$6.02.

Holliston. — "Open Hands," \$12.44.

Hyde Park. — Nellie Tyler's Doll's Missionary Box, 25 cents.

Jamaica Plain. — Minnie Gilbert's Candy Money, \$3.50.

Millbury. — "Light Bearers," \$100.00.

Newburyport. — "Belleville Mission-Circle," \$91.00.

Somerville. — "Square Circle," \$200.00.

Worcester. — "Seek and Save Society," \$5.00.

NEW YORK. — *Richmond.* — "Happy Workers," \$15.00.

OHIO. — *Windham.* — Young Ladies' Mission-Circle, \$74.91.

INDIANA. — *Fort Wayne.* — Plymouth Church Sabbath School, \$14.00.

WISCONSIN. — *Gay's Mills* Sabbath School, \$2.85.

IOWA. — *Stellapolis.* — Children's Missionary Society, \$7.00.

Independence. — \$1.06, the contents of little Jennie B's. bank, who went to the happy land nearly four years ago; 25 cents from Lizzie C.; 25 cents from Charlie B.; 14 cents from S. S. class.

CONNECTICUT. — *East Hampton.* — "Earnest Mission Helpers," \$5.00.

"WHAT LITTLE HANDS CAN DO."

THIS motto, in large gilt letters, was placed on the wall of the Congregational chapel in Oakland, Cal., last Friday. The occasion was the annual fair of the young girls of the congregation in the interest of foreign missions. The ladies of the church, two years ago, formed a society auxiliary to the Woman's Board of Missions in Boston. A little later, a girl's mission-circle was formed to aid the same organization, and last November held a fair, netting about two hundred dollars. On Friday of last week, they made their second offering with gratifying success. In addition to the tables of the mission-circle, was one filled with the handiwork of the 'Busy Bees,' — a class of seventeen little girls, who have been working for the past six months. As a result of their labors, they find the sum total of their net gains to be a hundred and thirty-five dollars, which is certainly a most satisfactory showing. Among the articles offered

for sale was a crib-quilt, the work of the youngest hands, — little girls of five and six years old. This is made of tiny bits of Marseilles, sewed with infinite patience and skill, and afterwards quilted by older hands. Miss Rappleye, who, two years since, went from Oakland to Constantinople, has there successfully established a girls' boarding-school of a high order; and the 'Busy Bees' design, with her permission, to assume the expense of one of her pupils. Their zeal, industry, and perseverance are worthy of the imitation of older Christians."

The above account was sent to us a few weeks since; and we are very happy to show our young friends the way in which "The Busy Bees" in California make golden honey for the missionary cause.

ENIGMA.

My 13, 3, 9, 6, 19, 16, 10, was one of the three divisions of Palestine.

My 1, 5, 11, 14, I hope no boy or girl who reads this is.

My 15, 18, 2, 17, 10, God sent to the Israelites in the wilderness.

My 12, 20, 8, is something of God's which is always upon us.

My 5, 10, 4, 1, 14, 11, was a great and good man who suffered persecution because he was faithful in prayer.

My 7, 19, 14, 12, 11, 20, tells us how God gives us blessings, and how we should give to others.

My whole is the name of a school for girls in a heathen land.

ANSWER TO ACROSTIC.

Missionary.

We have received correct answers to the acrostic in the March number, from E. R. T., Bedford, N.H.; S. P. C., Southbury, Conn.; C. A. M., Darien, Conn.; and C. F. S., Boston, Mass. Also additional answers to the enigma in the February number from E. R. T., Bedford, N.H.; J. H. B., East Windsor Hill, Conn.; C. F. S., Boston, Mass.; and C. G., St. Alban's, Vt.

We acknowledge the receipt of new enigmas from C. A. M., Darien, Conn., and J. H. B., East Windsor Hill, Conn.

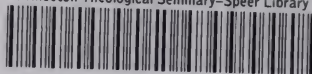
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